



# DELTA KAPPA GAMMA

SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL FOR KEY WOMEN EDUCATORS



Dear Eta Sisters,

If you were at the Honor's Luncheon, thank you for supporting this important event. Many members paid for their own lunch and paid for an honoree's lunch as well. Thank you. We had 11 honorees present. One did not show up and 8 were unable to attend. But every one of them was truly qualified to be honored. While the state government continues to stymie and stifle education we can still find these beautiful women doing outstanding

things. One of our honorees was overlooked. I will be apologizing to her and inviting her to our June meeting in Cottonwood/Sedona which will also be initiation. I hope you will be able to make that meeting. We also will have a joint meeting with Tau Chapter in Williams in May. We will be sending out information early so that we can plan on carpooling to these events. If you know that you will be going, why not let Sherry B know right now so you can get on a carpool list? A thank you also to those members who greeted and presented an honoree. It was wonderful to have so many of you participate.

Please consider attending the state convention at the end of April in Tucson. Registration forms are in the Sahuaro. You also have the chance to attend the Regional Conference in Wichita in July. I assure you that once you go to an event like that, you will want to repeat the experience. Right now Wally, Janice and Pat are planning to attend Tucson. Wally will also go to the Regional and I'm going to do my best to attend on my way to Illinois. I had a great time at the International in Indy last summer. If you are able to bake or make things for Eta for the state convention, please let Janice Lay know. She is our point person. Thank you to Ellen making knitted kid booties, Janice with salsa and other goodies, and Linda Spellman whose clips we will continue to sell. Thanks to Wally for selling \$40 worth of clips to her Oklahoma friends.

As our year winds down, we have our Executive Meeting on Holy Saturday at Bonnie's house, our joint meeting in Williams in May and our fun meeting and initiation in June. We hope you can make the last two general meetings. Happy Easter to you all.

Sherry Alimi, President

## MEETING PLANS

April 2015

## TIME AND DATE

9:30 a.m. on Saturday, April 4, 2015

## PLACE

Bonnie Waterer's home  
1052 Vantage Point Circle, Prescott

## PROGRAM

Executive Board Potluck Brunch  
All Members Invited

## DIRECTIONS FROM BONNIE

If you are coming from Willow Creek Road on Smoke Tree, turn right on Stoney Creek. This is the second right hand turn after the Lutheran Church. (If you are coming from Prescott Lakes Parkway on Smoke Tree, Stoney Creek is the second left hand turn after the Prescott Lakes Golf Club entrance.) Stoney Creek is a short street that takes you right to the gate. After entering the gate turn right on Northridge. Then take the first left on Vantage Point Circle. We are at the end of the cul de sac at 1052.

Our neighborhood gate is usually open on Saturdays so that Prescott Lakes realtors can encourage those who want to see what real estate is for sale along our streets. Because of that, members should not have much trouble getting into the Estates area. If they decide to close the gate for some reason, I'll just ask my husband to hang out by the gate in his tan Ford Escape for 10 minutes before and 10 minutes after our starting time and click the gate open to all the women who come by and wave at him. Chances are that won't be necessary.

## RSVP BY THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 2015

to Bonnie and let her know what you are bringing: (928)



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**Delta Kappa Gamma, Eta Chapter Minutes – Honors Luncheon Meeting  
March 21, 2015, Held at JTED in Prescott Valley**

**Members Present:** Sherry Alimi, Sherry Baca, Norma Bauer, Pat Buckley, Ellen Close, Linda Cramer, Janeth Dow, Mary Fiebiger, Kris Foster, Karen Hughes, Marilyn Jenkins, Janice Lay, Joyce Moore, Barbara Scott, Linda Spellman, Carol Stimple, Wally Turner, Bonnie Waterer, Juanice Williams

**Honored Guests Present:** Jenda Ballard, Kim Barker, Joni Burriss, Cindy Franklin, Karen Hughes, Jeaneen Leach, Penny Nicholas, Sara Rosengren, Karen Sampson, Bonnie Smith, Bonnie Waterer, Speaker – Dr. Penny Willis

**New Members Present:** Helen Colson-Carr Theresa Yslas

**Guest Present:** Pam Dickerson's guest, Tashia Irvine

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by the Delta Kappa Gamma Song led by Janice Lay and Joyce Moore at 10:00 a.m. followed by the recitation of DKG Mission Statement.

**Welcome:** Sherry Alimi, President, Eta Chapter

**Presentation of Honorees:**

**Jenda Ballard**, unified sports teacher and coach at Chino Valley High School was introduced by Pat Buckley.

**Kim Barker**, secretary at Miller Valley Elementary School in Prescott and awarded "Going the Extra Mile (2014)" was introduced by Norma Bauer.

**Joni Burriss**, first-grade teacher at Miller Valley Elementary school; completed early childhood education endorsement (2014) was introduced by Chris Foster.

**Cindy Franklin**, Curriculum Supervisor and kindergarten teacher at Franklin Phonetic School in Prescott Valley; founder of charter school; published doctoral dissertation (2014) was introduced by Linda Spellman.

**Karen Hughes**, awarded 2012 Yavapai County Pre-K through Third Grade Teacher of the Year (TOY); DKG Eta Chapter honoree 2013; initiated DKG Eta Chapter 2014; named new principal of Lincoln School for 2015-2016 was introduced by Janeth Dow.

**Jeaneen Leach**, language arts teacher at Ash Fork Middle School; awarded Yavapai Teacher of the Year in the Small District Category (2014) was introduced by Mary Fiebiger.

**Penny Nicholas**, kindergarten teacher at Washington Elementary School; Early Childhood Education; Yavapai County Teacher of the Year (2013) was introduced by Wally Turner.

**Sara Rosengren**, teacher and department chair at Chino Valley High School; completed Master of Arts in English with Honors at ASU, nominated for TOY (New Teacher) in 2013-2014 was introduced by Janice Lay.

**Karen Sampson**, K-1 math/science teacher at Washington School in Prescott, TOY (2014) in Pre-K through Third Grade; nominated Arizona Education Foundation Teacher of the Year (2015); awarded "Going the Extra Mile" Award (2013); Teacher of the Year at El Camino Academy in Bogota, Colombia (2000) was introduced by Sherry Baca.

**Bonnie Smith**, fifth grade teacher at Big Park Community School in Sedona; Siemens' Challenge Environmental Competition State Winner; taught in San Salvador, Guatemala; mentor teach (2011/2012); TOY (2013) was introduced by Ellen Close.

**Bonnie Waterer**, retired San Jose, California after 30 year career as Home Economics teacher; named Outstanding Home Economics Teacher in CA and in the top 10 in the U.S.; awarded NARBHA's Leta Clancy/Cecil Lockhart-Smith Award as community relations chair for the West Yavapai Guidance Clinic Board of Directors was introduced by Marilyn Jenkins.

Nine other professionals were honored in absentia: Jennifer Estrada, Jamie Bjune, Shannon Feipel, Shelly Helmken, Diane Pritchett, Renee Raskin, Dr. Kristen Rex, Tania Sheldahl, and Dr. Risha VanderWey.

Introduction of the Guest Speaker was done by Linda Cramer, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President, Eta Chapter. Guest Speak, Dr. Penny Wills, President of Yavapai College stressed five points in her address to inspire:

1. Model the way
2. Inspire a shared vision
3. Challenge the process
4. Ask the questions, enable others to act
5. Encourage the heart

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**ETA CHAPTER MEETING MINUTES (continued)  
JTED Building, Prescott Valley, Saturday, March 21, 2015**

Barbara Scott and Marilyn Jenkins were praised for their table decorations. Linda Spellman gave the ‘Inspiration’ message by encouraging members to have ‘Principal for the Day’ and Teacher for the Day’ activities to enlighten the public concerning these activities and the tremendous responsibilities.

Wally Turner, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President, Eta Chapter gave Closing Comments to honorees on the program with words of special thanks and appreciation.

The Business Meeting continued after the meal catered by JTED. Correspondence was read by Joyce Moore. There were no corrections to the Treasurer’s Report.

**Membership:** Wally Turner proposed that our honorees should be eligible to apply for DKG membership, that these recipients meet the criteria for membership. Janice Lay moved and Joyce Moore seconded a motion to make our honorees eligible for application for membership. Motion carried.

**World Fellowship Committee:** Mary Fiebiger collected \$82 for the Fifty-Fifty drawing. Ellen Close won the drawing for \$41.

**Old Business:** The Mayer Elementary School essays were evaluated committee members; results given to Sandy Canton to deliver back to the school. Thanks to all who participated in this yearly event.

**New Business:** State Convention registration forms are in the ‘Saguaro’ publication. We have a 50-year member who is Becky Shields and a 25-year member who is Dr. Nika Nordbrock. There will be a Summer Reading Gathering in mid-July at Starbuck’s on Route 69: Spare Parts. Linda Cramer has the book. A definite date needs to be decided. Because space is limited, notification of attendance is necessary. A new Sunshine Lady is needed. There is a proposal to use e-card communications. Product labels will go to Sacred Heart. Community volunteer work will be done at Lincoln School next year.

**Adjourned:** 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Joyce Moore, secretary

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**WORKDAY AT MILLER VALLEY APRIL 29  
by Linda Cramer**

Our next workday at Miller Valley School will be Wednesday, April 29, 2:30—4:00. It’s that hectic time of year for teachers, and they always appreciate our efforts. So I hope you can make room in your busy schedule to help cut, staple, laminate, or whatever they need. If you can attend, please let Linda Cramer know at 443-1947 or [waylinaz@msn.com](mailto:waylinaz@msn.com). Thanks.

Norma Bauer distributed surveys to Miller Valley teachers regarding DKG workdays. Nine teachers responded, four classroom teachers (grades K, 1, 2 and 3), and 5 who teach art, resource, reading, ELL and an unspecified K-5 course.

Seven said they had submitted work for us “a few times” and two said “many times.

All reported that they had sufficient advance notice of the workday.

All reported that the work was “well done.”

Five said they would like help packing for their move at the end of this year.

All would participate in our workshop next year if it were offered in their new school.

## ETA CHAPTER SUMMARIES

by Dorothy Eichbaum, Ellen Close and Sherry Baca

We send prayers and good thoughts to **Pam Dickerson**. Her daughter, Danielle, had been in the hospital in Phoenix with a neurological problem. We have learned she is out of the hospital now recovering.

**Chris Fonoti** misses speaking with and seeing all of her DKG Sisters in March. She had to be at a Board meeting in Phoenix and could not attend the Honors Luncheon.

**Veronica Wilson** had several areas of pre-cancer on her nose removed and then had surgery - a skin graft- that they took from the bridge of her nose to repair other areas. She reports "she is a mess and is really grounded for a while". She regrets not being able to attend the Honors Luncheon. We send wishes for a speedy recovery.

**Maurilee Walker** spent her Spring Break going back to Tennessee. We hope she had a very nice trip.

**Kelli Bradstreet** was unable to attend the Honors Luncheon because her son, Wesley, had a voice competition AND he was performing as Charlie in Yavapai College's production of Willy Wonka. But Kelli did get nice publicity in the newspaper about each of our honorees! Thank you!

**Dorothy Eichbaum** could not attend the Honors Luncheon because she was attending her Aunt's 95th birthday in Mesa that day. She had family from Colorado, California, Texas, and Arizona planning to be there.

**Sherry Baca's** husband had been in the hospital for several days but is home now and doing well. She thanks everyone for their prayers.

**Marilyn Jenkins** has moved. Her new address is Apt. 352, 1035 Scott Drive, Prescott, AZ 86301.



**Sherry Alimi** and her fiancé Steve Kent recently took a trip to Guatemala. They visited the colonial town of Antigua, the black sand beach of the Pacific Ocean, the stunning vulcan-encircled Lake Atitlan, a coffee finca, the May ruins of Tikal and even saw Volcano Fuego erupting with a lava stream. All were beautiful sites. Sherry was visiting her college roommate Vilma whom she had not seen for almost 40 years. Sherry was able to contact two of our DKG sisters, Beatriz and Claudia, take a tour of their school, and share a drink with them. She met them originally at the International Convention in Indy.

Below are photos of Sherry with Beatriz and Claudia.



### NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION ON SUNDAY, MAY 3

We will have orientation on Sunday, May 3, in the afternoon for our three newly elected members – Theresa Yslas, Helen Colson-Carr and Helen McDowell. If you have a friend that you are thinking of inviting to join DKG, asking them to come to orientation with you is a great way to give them some information. Orientation is NOT an obligation to join, but it IS a requirement once a recommended person is voted on by the membership. And the orientation will give them a great way to meet a few members informally. Contact Sherry Alimi or Wally Turner if you have a friend you would like to invite. Orientation will be held at Sherry Alimi's house. Time to be determined.

### NEW SUNSHINE LADY SOUGHT

Janeth Dow who has long held the position of Sunshine Lady has given notice that she would like to pass the "pen and cards" on to another sister. We are grateful for her long and faithful service. The duties of the Sunshine Lady include sending out birthday, sympathy, congratulations and get well cards to our members. During Janeth's tenure and before, they have been actual cards. Janeth recommends that we send electronic cards. There are 7 members who do not have emails on file. If you are interested in picking up the "pen", please contact Sherry B.

### CONGRATULATIONS

We have among us sisters who are celebrating 25 years of membership and 50 years of membership. Congratulations to Becky Shields, a 50-year member, and Dr. Nika Nordbrock, a 25-year member.

### DKG BOOK CLUB MEETING IN JULY

Do you remember a news story from 2004 in which a team of kids and two teachers from an underfunded high school in Phoenix beat M.I.T. (yes, that M.I.T) in an underwater robotics competition?

It seemed like a fairy tale then, but the real story is much more exciting and inspiring than a fairy tale could ever be.

The book is titled Spare Parts, a true life story about how they and their teacher managed to scavenge \$800 and spare parts to build a robot, while facing challenging opponents including the MIT team of engineering students who had a \$10,000 grant from ExxonMobil. And yet they won!

As an educator, you will love this story. We plan to meet during the second week in July to share our reactions about the book. We'll announce the date and place soon. In the meantime, you can buy the book on Amazon for around \$8.00, get it from the library, borrow Linda Cramer's copy, and/or rent the movie which came out this year and has the same title, Spare Parts.

### Omicron State Calendar

#### **April 24-26, 2015**

Omicron State Convention  
Radisson Suites Tucson  
6555 E. Speedway Blvd.  
Tucson, AZ

#### **July 19 - 24, 2015**

*Southwest Regional Conference*  
*Hyatt Regency*  
*Wichita, Kansas*

#### **October 24, 2015**

Omicron State Fall Workshop  
Metro Tech High School  
1900 West Thomas Road  
Phoenix, AZ

#### **April 22-24, 2016**

Omicron State Convention  
Embassy Suites Phoenix North  
2577 W. Greenway Road  
Phoenix, AZ

### Eta Chapter Officers

#### 2014-2016

#### President

Sherry Alimi (928) 830-2718

#### First Vice President

Linda Cramer (928) 443-1947

#### Second Vice President

Wally Turner (580) 402-3098

#### Recording Secretary

Joyce Moore (928) 759-7106

#### Treasurer

Norma Bauer (928) 445-1146

#### Parliamentarian

Barbara Scott (928) 442-3470

#### Past President

### Mission Statement

*The Delta Kappa Gamma Society  
International promotes professional and  
personal growth of women educators and  
excellence in education.*

### **Do You Know the Real Becky Shields?**

**by Sherry Alimi**

Being new to Eta, I really didn't know Becky Shields. It took me a while to connect her face to the name I had heard many times at American Lutheran Church, my church. But when I was tasked to interview her as a candidate for the Omicron State Achievement Award, I was able to connect the dots. A Phoenix native, she taught in San Bernardino, CA and Glendale AZ. In 1960 she moved to Prescott because her son had asthma, and Prescott was recommended for his health. She taught Kindergarten until her retirement. What can I say about our 50 year member, Becky Shields? I can say that although she has been retired from teaching Kindergarten for many years, she is not sitting back and taking it easy. Becky is a pillar of American Lutheran Church, a pioneer in the ministry of prayer at ALC and in the community.

Becky heads the entire Prayer Ministry which is an umbrella for various prayer groups. WOW, Women of Wisdom, is a program of bible study and prayer in our community. Becky was one of the original founders of Prescott's WOW and still works to choose the various book offerings, teaches some of the them and heads the prayer portion of the program. WOW has three sessions per year and is attended by over 200 participants each session, most of whom do not belong to ALC. "Walk Through Bethlehem" is a well-known and beloved Christmas offering in northern Arizona. Originally two weekends and now only one, members of ALC men, women and children in costume help transport the visitors to the time of the birth of Christ. The lower level of the church is decorated into a market place with food tastings and beggar children. At the end of the tour the angels announce the birth of Christ and visitors go into the stable to see living portrayals of Mary, Joseph, and Jesus with live animals and shepherds. Becky was one of the founders of this holiday classic and provides the prayer component for anyone requesting prayer.

Becky also originated the Pastors Prayer Partners at ALC, a national program begun 20 years ago which focuses on praying for pastors. The ALC pastors provide a monthly schedule of activities that they are carrying out and indicate special needs in their lives for prayer from the team. Becky heads this important prayer team and organizes the yearly prayer luncheon. Becky heads the Prayer Team for the church. This group receives the prayer concerns of the congregation. They are available for prayer after each of the three Sunday services and then meet on Mondays at ALC to pray the concerns collected. The members then pray during the week for these concerns in their homes. Another type of prayer group is the Miracle Prayer Time which meets Tuesday afternoons. Members needing specific prayers for catastrophic illness or concerns can come to this group. It can include the laying on of hands during the prayers. Becky got the AGLOW ministry going in Prescott in 1977. It is an international program consisting of women in prayer. There are monthly luncheons with prayer and worship in a local restaurant. AGLOW is active in 170 countries focusing on the power of prayer. Overseas there is an emphasis on feeding, clothing the needy.

Another important program that Becky has spearheaded is an outreach in our community to the homeless, the unemployed, the poor, needy and hungry and those in recovery. This program originally began many years ago to provide a meal and worship to these specific groups. ALC provides a meal on Sunday afternoon and then the diners can stay for a late Sunday worship service at ALC. About 40-60 people come for this meal. Becky makes sure that meals are provided for each Sunday. Some members make snacks for those who arrive, sandwiches they can take home with them. In addition, Becky is involved in a prayer group with a Baptist church, Prayer Walking and Prayer Driving which is walking or driving in neighborhoods and praying for specific or general needs. For example, one branch of this group would get up early and walk the grounds of our local middle school and pray for the students, for the disappearance of drugs and violence, for the teachers and administrators. Becky also has been involved in Child Evangelism in the community, holding classes in her home and reaching out to unchurched children. These prayer ministries are very time consuming. For example, Becky goes to church by 8 am each Sunday and is there until 5 pm when the Afternoon Meal is over; then she returns Monday morning for the prayer concerns. It is amazing that in addition to these projects she has on-going each week, Becky participates in Jubilate Choir, a women's singing group. She ushers, greets and reads the lessons and also is a communion assistant on occasion. She also visits nursing homes and shut-ins from the church.

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Becky has taken to heart the Bible verse about praying unceasingly. She serves as an example of faith, hope and charity. She lives to serve the "least of these". She is a perfect example of what the Founders had in mind when they created Delta Kappa Gamma. She has devoted her life to the first purpose of the Society: to unite women educators of the world in a genuine spiritual fellowship. Emphasis on the "spiritual"!



Becky Shields